



LOUISIANA NATURAL AND SCENIC RIVERS SYSTEM

PERMIT APPLICATIONPermit # 905 (Assigned by Department)

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries' Scenic Rivers program is authorized by LRS title 56, Chapter 9 Part II. This law requires permits authorizing activities in or affecting rivers that have been designated by the Louisiana Legislature as Natural and Scenic. Information provided on this form will be used in evaluating the application for a permit. Information in this application is made a matter of public record through issuance of a public notice. Disclosure of the information requested is voluntary, however, the data requested are necessary in order to communicate with the applicant and to evaluate the permit application. If necessary information is not provided, the permit application cannot be processed nor can a permit be issued.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Applicant ST. TAMMANY PARISH GOVERNMENT	Name of Agent (if any) BIOLOGICAL SURVEYS, INC.
Address P.O. BOX 628	Address P.O. BOX 94
Address	Address
City, State, Zip COVINGTON, LA 70434	City, State, Zip COVINGTON, LA 70434
Phone 985-898-2552	Phone 985-893-1321

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY

Brief summary of the description and purpose of the proposed activity (details to be attached as a separate document)
A PROPOSED WALKING PIER AND GAZEBO ON THE TCHEFUNCTE RIVER ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED ST. TAMMANY CULTURAL ARTS CENTER.
Is any portion of the activity complete? YES NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes indicate month and year of completion)

LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY

Stream Name	TCHEFUNCTE RIVER	Names, Addresses, Phone Numbers of Adjacent Property Owners
Parish	ST. TAMMANY PARISH	WAINER BROTHERS, 321 VETERANS BLVD.
Section	45	SUITE 201, METAIRIE, LA 70005
Township	7	
Range	11	CP NORD DU LAC JV, LLC, 2101 6TH AVENUE NORTH
Latitude/Longitude	30° 26' 40.34" N / 90° 07' 06.89" W	SUITE 201, BIRMINGHAM, AL 35202

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Must be a separate document. See the attached instruction sheet for completing the assessment.

CONFIRMATION OF INFORMATION ACCURACY

Application is hereby made for a Scenic River Use Permit to authorize the activities described herein. I certify that I am familiar with the information contained in this application, and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, such information is true, complete, and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the proposed activities, or I am acting as the duly authorized agent of the applicant.
--

Signature

Date

**SCENIC RIVER USE
CLASS B
PERMIT REQUEST**

PREPARED FOR:

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND
FISHERIES

REGARDING:

A PROPOSED WALKING PIER AND GAZEBO ON THE TCHEFUNCTE RIVER ASSOCIATED WITH
THE PROPOSED ST. TAMMANY CULTURAL ARTS CENTER
COVINGTON, ST. TAMMANY PARISH, LOUISIANA

PREPARED BY:

BIOLOGICAL SURVEYS, INC.
P.O. BOX 94
MANDEVILLE, LA 70470

June 11, 2014

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I INTRODUCTION

The Tchefuncte River, located in Washington and St. Tammany Parishes, is designated a Louisiana Scenic River. Any construction activity along its banks may require a Scenic Rivers Permit from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF). The information contained in this document is provided to LDWF to be used in their assessment of the following proposed construction project on the Tchefuncte River. The proposed project is located on the right descending bank of the Tchefuncte at 30° 26' 40.34" N – 90° 07' 06.89" W or about 0.7 river miles north of Interstate 12. Proposed construction activities consist of a raised wooden walkway and pier overlooking the Tchefuncte as shown on the attached plats.

II DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposed project involves work along the Tchefuncte River, north of I-12, as shown on attached plats. Proposed work involves mechanically clearing a 30' wide right-of-way (ROW) and constructing an 8' wide raised wooden walkway and a 25' diameter gazebo overlooking the Tchefuncte. The ROW will be cleared with a track hoe mounted tree shear or hydro-ax. Wooden mats will be used to stabilize substrate for track hoe support. Following clearing, construction will begin at the proposed Cultural Arts Center site, then proceed easterly, terminating at the Tchefuncte.

III DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT AREA

The proposed project site is a 27.68 acre wooded site situated between the Colonial Pinnacle Nord Du Lac Shopping Center to the west and the Tchefuncte River to the east. The property is also bounded on the south by I-12 and on the north by the proposed Estates at Watercross Subdivision. The St. Tammany Parish Cultural Arts Center is proposed for this site. This center will include a performing arts center and convention hall, a children's museum and an outdoor amphitheater. The proposed boardwalk will connect this facility to the Tchefuncte and will also be developed into an interpretive nature trail, traversing both pine-mixed hardwood and cypress-tupelo swamp habitat. Approximately 0.46 acres of cypress-tupelo habitat will be impacted by the project. The remaining wetland acreage (6.82 acres) will not be impacted.

IV PERMITS

A US Army Corps of Engineers Section 10 Wetland Permit has been applied for. The project will also comply with state and local and US Coast Guard standards.

V PERMIT EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Existing Land Use

The subject property has historically been used for timber production, but in the past ten years, along with other woodland acreages in the I-12/La 21 corridor, has been undergoing conversion to residential/commercial development. Flower Estates, immediately north of the project site, was developed in the 1960's. Also, much of the Tchefuncte River frontage in the project vicinity has been residentially developed.

2. Historical/Archeological Sites

No known historical or archeological sites exist in the proposed project area.

3. Economic Impact of the Project
The project will provide economic benefit to those involved in associated construction activities and should promote tourism in the project vicinity.
4. Wilderness/Rural Quality
The proposed project is located in a developed area with little wilderness/rural quality. The proposed project will have no impact on this variable.
5. Scenic/Aesthetic Value
Scenic/Aesthetics are, generally, in the eye of the beholder. The wooden gazebo, which will be seen from the river, will blend in to local river use and should be, in the eyes of many, an aesthetic improvement.
6. Recreational Opportunity
The placement of the boardwalk and gazebo will improve recreational opportunity of the Tchefuncte River and its associated riparian woodlands. Presently, there is no access to the site and no recreational use.
7. Ecological/Systems Present
There will be a direct impact of tree removal on 0.46 acres due to ROW clearing. Other than this, there will be no cumulative or secondary impacts. There will be no hydrological impacts as the walkway and pier will be raised.
8. Fish and Wildlife in the Area
As there will be no hydrological impact nor large scale clearing or topographical manipulation, impacts to fish and wildlife resources should be minimal.
9. Botanical Elements
The botanical elements in the conservation area will be maintained as they are through the preservation of all wetlands outside the direct work area. The only impacts will be the direct removal of 0.46 acres of trees in the project ROW.
10. Geological Features
Current geological features will be maintained. Therefore, no adverse impacts are anticipated.
11. Hydrological Feature
Construction of the raised pier and boardwalk will have no adverse impact on hydrological features.
12. Water Quality/Quantity
Best Management Practices will be utilized to prevent water quality degradation. Project implementation will have no impact on water quantity currently in the Tchefuncte. Therefore, no adverse impacts to water quality/quantity are anticipated.

VI ALTERNATIVES

The alternatives to the project would be;

1. **No action** – With no action, the positive impacts to the recreational use, public access, and economy of the area will be negated.

2. **Implementation of proposed project** – Implementation of the proposed project will provide the most benefit with no long-term harmful environmental impact. Therefore, for the reasons listed above, implementation of the proposed project is the most desirable alternative.



State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

BRYANT O. HAMMETT, JR.
SECRETARY

Dear Scenic River Permit Applicant:

Please review and concur on the following statement regarding the issuance of permits by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. This agreement must be signed and returned before a Scenic River Permit can be issued.

"I have been advised and do understand that by applying for and accepting a Scenic Rivers permit issued by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, I am being allowed to engage in an activity which would otherwise be prohibited by law or for which a permit is required. I understand that the permit is not a license and confers no property right upon me. I specifically agree to abide by all State and Federal fish and wildlife laws and regulations, and all State and Federal laws and regulations which relate to this permit or the permitted activity, and by all other terms and conditions of this permit. I understand that the permit for which I am applying may be suspended, annulled, withdrawn or revoked and that I may be assessed civil penalties, all in accordance with the provision of the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act, and that I may be denied future permits as a consequence of my failure to fully and completely comply with the terms and conditions of the permit, as well as other laws and regulations pertinent thereto. If served with or notified of a cease and desist order signed by the Scenic Rivers Administrator, I agree to immediately and without delay cease all activities and operations which relate to the permitted activity or which are impacting the Scenic River, until such time as the matter can be resolved in an adjudicatory hearing pursuant to the Louisiana Administrative Procedure Act. I understand and agree that any permit issued to me by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is in the nature of a privilege which is being voluntarily extended to me by the Department and the failure on my part to cooperate with the Department can result in the loss of the privilege conferred and the denial of future requests for permits. By accepting this permit, I evidence my agreement to be bound by all conditions and stipulations set forth herein."

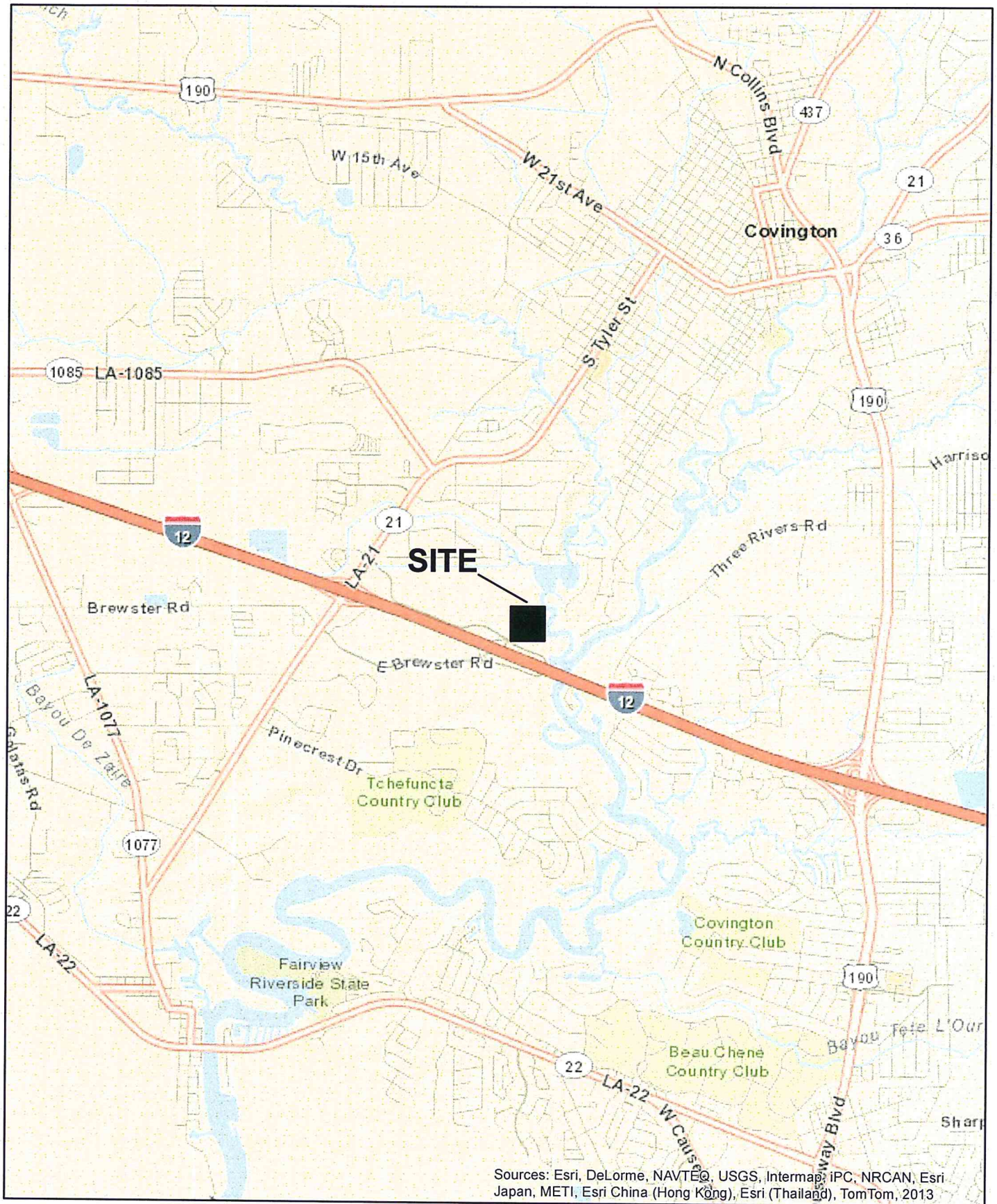
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas K. Baum".

Authorized Signature

A handwritten date in blue ink that reads "6/10/2014".

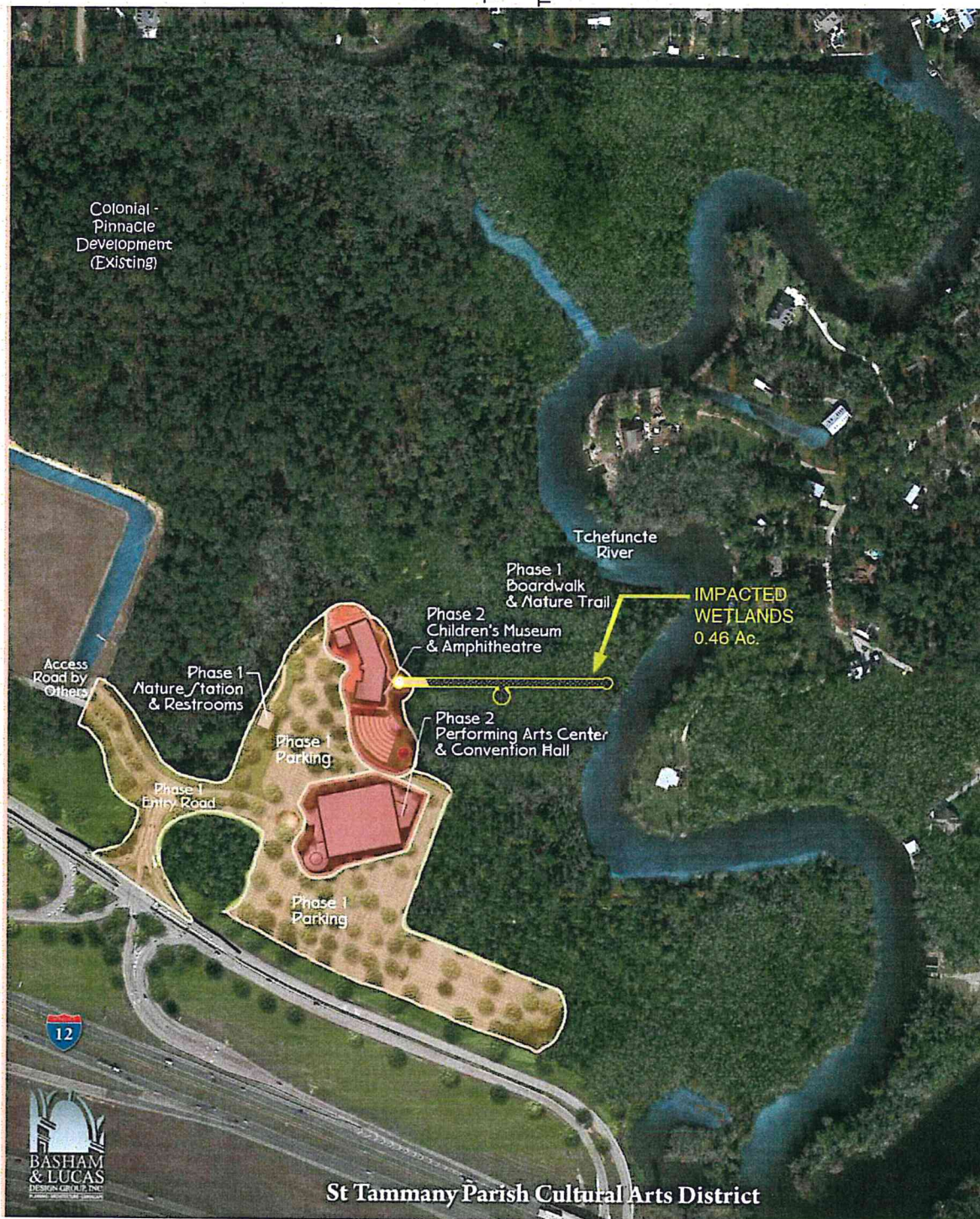
Date

VICINITY MAP



Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, USGS, Intermap, IPC, NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom, 2013





LEGEND: IMPACTED WETLANDS

TOTAL IMPACTED WETLANDS = 0.46 Ac.

TOTAL AREA = 27.68 ± AC

GRAPHIC SCALE



(IN FEET)
1 inch = 300 ft.

St. Tammany Parish Cultural Arts District

IMPACTED WETLANDS

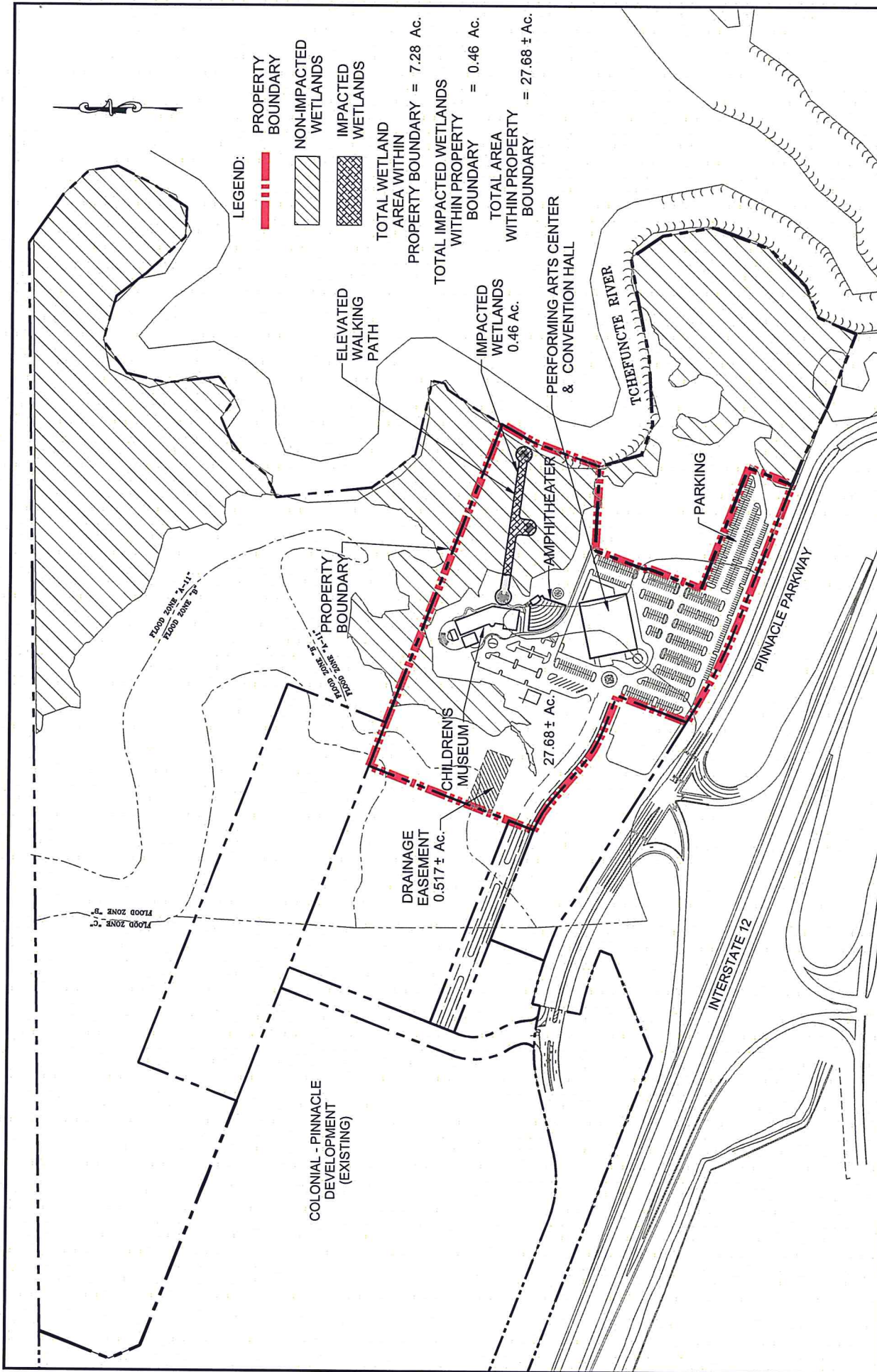
St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana

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Fax: 985-727-4447

RCL
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Architecture
Engineering
Construction
Management

RE: DRAWING SOURCE:

Date: 6-4-14
JOB NO.: 713-24
DRAWING NO. 1



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St. Tammany Parish
Cultural Arts District
IMPACTED WETLANDS
St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana

RE:

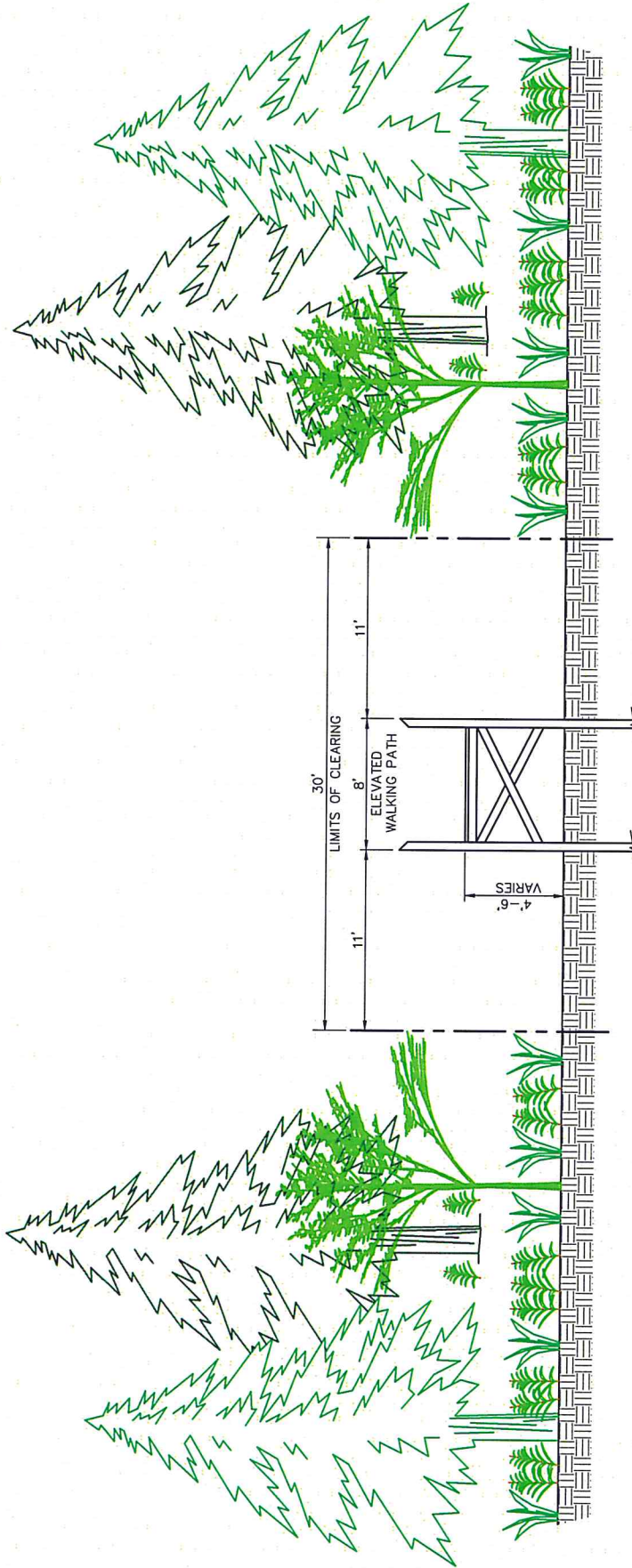
DRAWING SOURCE:

Date: 6-4-14
JOB NO.: 713-24
DRAWING NO. 2

GRAPHIC SCALE

500 0 250 500

(IN FEET)
1 inch = 500 ft



ELEVATED WALKING PATH - DETAIL
Scale 1"=10'

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St. Tammany Parish
Cultural Arts District
Elevated Walking Path-Detail
St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana

GRAPHIC SCALE



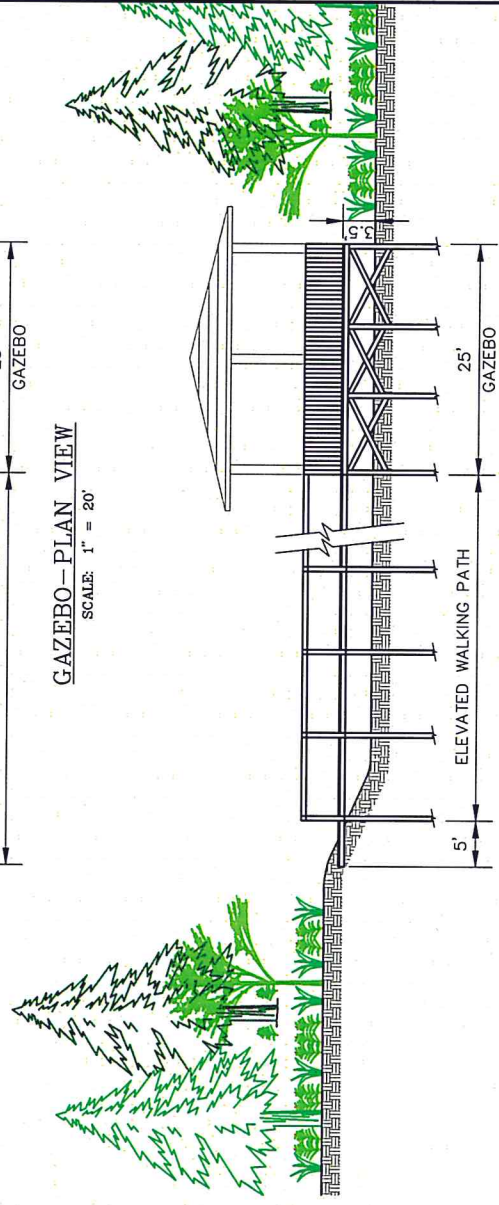
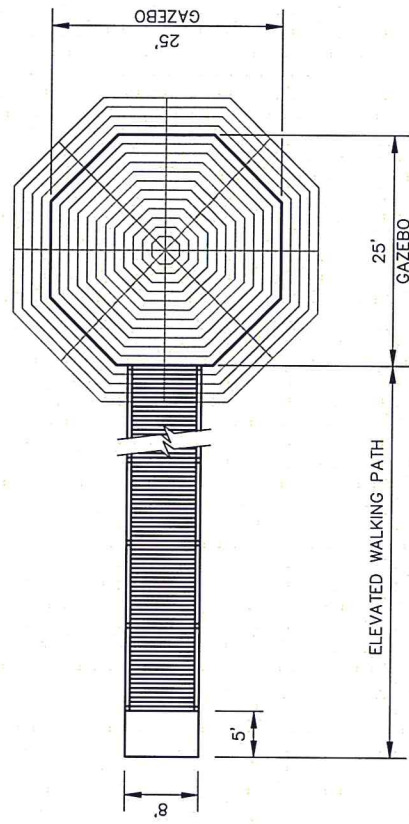
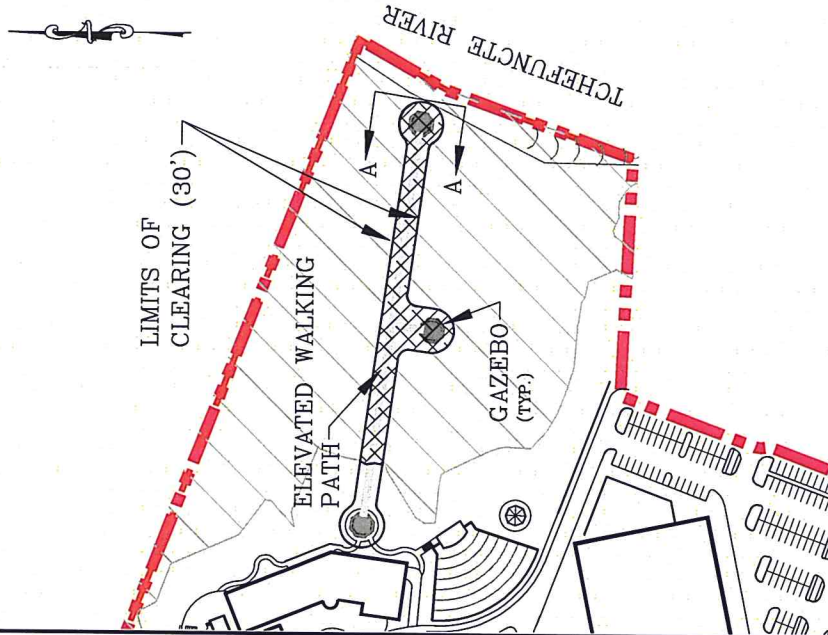
(IN FEET)
1 inch = 10 ft.

RE:
DRAWING SOURCE:

Date: 6-4-14
JOB NO.: 713-24

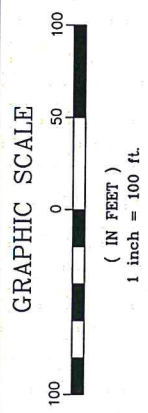
DRAWING NO. 3

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IMPACTED WETLANDS
St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana



RE:
DRAWING SOURCE:

Date: 6-4-14
JOB NO.: 713-24

DRAWING NO. 4



1. View westerly over proposed overlook site



2. View northerly up river



3. View easterly across river from proposed overlook



4. View southerly down river